

REMARKS

Amendments

The proviso clauses of claims 1 and 2 are amended to recite that X are also not unsubstituted 2,5-dialkyl-1,4-phenylene or 2,5-dialkoxy-1,4-phenylene. See, e.g., page 9, lines 9-10.

Withdrawn Claims

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of which claims are withdrawn. In the Office Action of October 10, 2007, the Examiner stated that claim 13 was withdrawn because it excluded X being phenylene. However, it is noted that the prior (and present) version of claim 1 also excluded X being 1,4-phenylene.

Rejection under 35 USC §103(a) in view of Ng et al.

Claims 1-7, 10, 11, 24-26, 29, 30, 33, 34, and 41 are rejected as allegedly being obvious in view of the Ng et al. (CAPLUS 2000:634223), Macromolecules 2000, 33, 7349-7358. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Ng et al. disclose compounds having two thienyl rings connected by a 1,4-phenylene ring wherein the two thienyl rings are each monosubstituted by butyl, octyl, or dodecyl. See Reaction Scheme 1 at page 7350.

Such compounds do not suggest the compounds according to applicants' claims 1 and 2. See the proviso clauses. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 USC §103(a) in view of Ruiz et al.

Claims 1-7, 10, 11, 24-26, 29, 30, 33, 34 and 41 are rejected as allegedly being obvious in view of the Ruiz et al. (CAPLUS 1992:42166), Macromolecules 1992, 25, 849-860. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Ruiz et al. disclose compounds having two thienyl rings connected by a 1,4-phenylene ring wherein the 1,4-phenylene ring is disubstituted in the 2 and 5 positions by two alkyl groups or two alkoxy groups. See the R groups identified in Reaction Scheme 1 at page 850.

Such compounds do not suggest the compounds according to applicants' claims 1 and 2.

See the proviso clauses. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,

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